

Application No. 10/789,946  
Amendment dated June 29, 2011  
Reply to Office Action of March 30, 2011

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings, and versions, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for a radio communication system having a mobile node selectably operable at least to communicate packet data with a network part, the network part comprised of a plurality of network portions and a central database, a first network portion of the plurality forming a home network associated with the mobile node, said apparatus for at least facilitating selection of with which network portion of the plurality of network portions that the mobile node communicates, said apparatus comprising:

a storage element embodied at the mobile node, said storage element for storing values defining a database, the database forming a listing identifying at least the first network portion and a second network portion ~~selected ones~~ of the plurality of network portions together with an indication associated therewith of network-portion capability to provide packet data connectivity with the mobile node to communicate packet data therewith, the listing dynamically updateable;

a detector coupled to the storage element and adapted to receive a message from the ~~[[a]]~~ second network portion identifying values associated with the second network and to responsively alter the values stored in the storage element to alter the indication of network-portion capability of the second network portion in ~~ef~~ the listing when the message is of values indicating ~~identifying~~ a second network-portion capability to be different than those indicated ~~identified~~ in the listing, thereby dynamically updating the listing;

a selector adapted to access the database defined at said storage element, said selector for selecting through which of the network portions of the plurality of network portions to communicate the packet data, selection made by said selector at least in part dependent upon the listing formed of the database defined at said storage element.

Application No. 10/789,946  
Amendment dated June 29, 2011  
Reply to Office Action of March 30, 2011

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the plurality of network parts each broadcast ~~part broadcasts~~ the messages delivered to the mobile node, and wherein said detector selectably detects broadcasts of the messages by the selected ones of the plurality of network parts ~~part~~.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 3 ~~[[4]]~~ wherein the selected message broadcast by the selected network portion is further of values identifying the network portion from which the message is broadcast.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein each network portion of the plurality of network portions is identified by an identification code and wherein the values identifying the network portion contained in the selected message comprises the identification code.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein the radio communication system comprises a cellular communication system operable generally pursuant to a GSM (Global System for Mobile communications) operating protocol that defines mobile country codes and mobile network codes and wherein the values identifying the network portion contained in the selected message comprise a mobile country code and a mobile network code associated with the network portion from which the message is broadcast.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 3 ~~[[4]]~~ wherein each network portion of the at least selected ones of the network portions broadcast the messages upon broadcast channels of a set of broadcast channels and wherein said detector further selectably scans the

Application No. 10/789,946  
Amendment dated June 29, 2011  
Reply to Office Action of March 30, 2011

broadcast channels of the set of broadcast channels to detect the broadcasts of the messages by the selected ones of the network portion.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said detector is further coupled to said storage element, said detector further for storing at least selected values that define the database at said storage element.
10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said detector further selectably removes values from the database defined at said storage element.
11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the database defined at said storage element further indicates availability of the at least selected ones of the plurality of network portions through which to communicate the packet data.
12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the mobile node is further selectably for communicating voice data and wherein the listing formed of the database defined at said storage element further identifies the at least selected ones of the plurality of network portions together with an indication associated therewith of network-portion capability to provide voice data connectivity with the mobile node to communicate voice data therewith.
13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12 wherein said selector is further selectably for selecting through which of the network portions of the plurality of network portions to communicate the voice data.
14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the database forming the listing defined at said storage element is created by downloading thereto of a central database directory, the database selectably updatable thereafter.

Application No. 10/789,946  
Amendment dated June 29, 2011  
Reply to Office Action of March 30, 2011

15. (Currently Amended) A method of communicating in a radio communication system having a mobile node selectably operable at least to communicate packet data with a network part comprised of a plurality of network portions and a central database, a first network portion of the plurality forming a home network associated with the mobile node, said method for at least facilitating selection of with which network portion of the plurality of network portions that the mobile node communicates, said method comprising:

storing values defining a database at the mobile node, the database forming a listing identifying at least the first network portion and a second network portion ~~selected ones~~ of the plurality of network portions together with an indication associated therewith of network-portion capability to provide packet data connectivity with the mobile node to communicate packet data therewith, the listing dynamically updateable;

receiving a message from the ~~the~~ [[a]] second network portion identifying values associated with the second network;

responsively altering the values stored in the storage element following the reception of the message from the second network portion to alter the indication of network-portion capability of the second network portion of the listing when the message is of values indicating identifying a second network portion capability to be different than those indicated ~~as identified~~ in the listing, thereby dynamically updating the listing;

selecting through which of the network portions of the plurality of network portions to communicate the packet data, selection made during said operation of selecting at least in part dependent upon the listing formed of the database defined during said operation of storing.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15 wherein said operation of detecting is further performed subsequent to said operation of storing and wherein said operations of detecting and storing are iteratively performed.

Application No. 10/789,946  
Amendment dated June 29, 2011  
Reply to Office Action of March 30, 2011

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 further comprising the operation, ~~prior to said operation~~, prior to said operation of detecting, of sending the messages to the mobile node.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15 wherein the messages detected during said operation of detecting are sent to the mobile node by selected network portions and wherein values contained in the messages are selectably stored during said operation of storing.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the messages detected during said operation of detecting identify the network portion capabilities of associated network portions of the selected network portions.

21 - 30. (Cancelled)

31. (Previously Presented) The mobile node of claim 34 further comprising:  
a receive part configured to receive a central database listing, the central database listing having an identity of a network, a roaming indication, and an indication of services available in the network.

32. (Currently Amended) A method in a mobile node capable of packet data communication with a network part, for selecting a radio access network of a plurality of radio access networks in the network part, a first radio access network of the plurality forming a home network associated with the mobile node, the network part storing values defining a first database in a central database and the mobile node storing values defining a second database in a storage element, the first and second databases each forming a listing identifying available radio access networks, including the first radio access network and a second radio access network, of the plurality of radio access networks together with an indication

Application No. 10/789,946  
Amendment dated June 29, 2011  
Reply to Office Action of March 30, 2011

associated therewith of radio access network capability to provide packet data communication with the mobile node, the method characterized by:

detecting messages received from the [[a]] second radio access network of the available radio access networks when the mobile node is not a party to a communication session, the messages having values identifying the radio access network capabilities of the second radio access network;

dynamically altering the indication of the second radio access network capability of the listing in the second database when a message is of values indicating identifying the second radio access network capabilities to be different from those indicated identified in the listing in the second database;

selecting a radio access network from the available radio access networks for packet data communication based upon the listing in the second database formed in of the second database defined during said operation of storing and altering; and

providing the altered indication of the second radio access network capability to the first listing in the first central database in response to the selection of a radio access network.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the operation of receiving messages is further performed subsequent to the operation of storing and wherein the operations of receiving and storing are iteratively performed.

34. (Currently Amended) A mobile node capable of packet data communication with a network part configured to select a radio access network of a plurality of radio access networks in the network part, a first radio access network of the plurality forming a home network associated with the mobile node, the network part storing values defining a first database in a central database and the mobile node configured to store values defining a second database in a storage element, the first and second databases each forming a listing identifying available radio access networks , including the first radio access network and a second radio access network, of the plurality of radio access networks together with an

Application No. 10/789,946  
Amendment dated June 29, 2011  
Reply to Office Action of March 30, 2011

indication associated therewith of radio access network capability to provide packet data communication with the mobile node, the mobile node characterized by:

a detector coupled to the storage element, the receiver configured to receive messages from the [[a]] second radio access network of the available radio access networks when the mobile is not a party to a communication session, the messages having values identifying the radio access network capabilities of the second radio access network, the detector further configured to alter the indication of the second radio access network capability of the listing in the second database when a message is of values indicating identifying the second radio access network capabilities to be different from those indicated identified in the listing in the second database; the listing dynamically updateable;

a selector coupled to the detector and the storage element, the selector configured to select a radio access network from the available radio access networks for packet data communication based upon the listing in the second database formed in of the second database defined in the storage element and the alteration made by the detector altering; and

a provider , responsive to the selection of a radio access network, to provide the altered indication of the second radio access network capability to the first listing in the first ~~central~~ database.